

The Roadmap to Civic Engagement

What is the *Roadmap*?

The Roadmap provides an interactive process through which youth learn about:

- Their community,
- understand its needs,
- decide how to address those needs,
- then do so through a community service project.

By working with AmeriCorps members and using the *Roadmap*, youth begin to see themselves as change agents capable of affecting the world around them and positively impacting their community. By incorporating elements of history, government, reading, and writing, as well as reflection, the *Roadmap* ensures that youth are learning while, at the same time, meeting a genuine community need. This type of "service-learning" has been shown to be a highly effective education tool with lasting impacts on its participants.

Who has participated?

- Last year alone over 1,100 youth participated and helped address genuine needs in their communities.
- Also, over 170 different schools and community organizations have partnered with WSC AmeriCorps members to provide quality service-learning civic engagement education. Over 35 have hosted the program multiple years!

What are people saying about their experience with the *Roadmap*?

"...The team building activities and community-orientated discussions have had a positive effect on my students. (The members') work helped my students to become better acquainted with life in America and to understand what rights and responsibilities they have as new members of our society."

~Inna Hanson, ESL teacher at Chase Middle School, Spokane

"I feel that this experience will not be a single isolated event, but the beginning of a lifetime of community service."

~Youth participant, Cispus AmeriCorps team

"I am very proud of these students for their hard work, devotion, and concentration. I have seen the growth with each and every student in terms of communication, writing skills, learning abilities, and even their knowledge of community. This was an excellent experience for me!"

~Rachael Alcala, Intermountain AmeriCorps member partnering with Sterling Intermediate School